

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

13. (Currently Amended) A laser irradiation target for the manufacture of carbon nanotubes by laser ablation, said target comprising:

a fullerene powder; and

a catalyst powder mixed pressed together with said fullerene powder to form a pellet.

wherein said laser irradiation target comprises said catalyst powder in a range of 4.5 at % and 5.5 at %.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said fullerene powder comprises a C₆₀ fullerene.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said catalyst powder comprises one of Ni and Co.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said catalyst powder comprises a transition metal.

20. (Currently Amended) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said laser irradiation target comprises about 5 at % catalyst powder.

21. (Currently Amended) The laser irradiation target according to claim 13, wherein said catalyst powder comprises a Ni catalyst.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said catalyst powder comprises a Co catalyst.

24. (Currently Amended) The laser irradiation target ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 13, wherein said laser ablation apparatus ~~comprises a low temperature laser ablation~~ has an operating range of 350°C - 450°C to manufacture said carbon nanotubes.

25. (Currently Amended) The laser irradiation target ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 13, wherein said laser ablation apparatus has an operating ~~comprises a short pulse-width laser ablation of 8 ns and an energy density of 3 J/cm² per pulse, to manufacture said carbon~~ nanotubes.

26. (Currently Amended) A laser irradiation target for the manufacture of carbon nanotubes by laser ablation, said target comprising:

a fullerene powder; and

a catalyst powder ~~mixed~~ pressed together with said fullerene powder to form a pellet;

wherein said laser irradiation target forms a carbon nanotube when subjected to laser ablation.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Added) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 26, wherein said fullerene powder comprises pure polycrystalline powder of C₆₀ fullerene.

30. (Previously Added) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 26, wherein said catalyst powder comprises at least one of Ni and Co.

31. (Currently Amended) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 26, wherein said laser irradiation target comprises about 5 at. % catalyst powder.

32. (Currently Amended) A laser irradiation target comprising:

a fullerene powder; and

a catalyst powder ~~separately provided from~~ combined with said fullerene powder to form a solid unit,

wherein said laser irradiation target comprises said catalyst powder in a range of

4.5 at % and 5.5 at %, and

wherein said target forms ~~an~~ a carbon nanotube when subjected to a laser ablation.

33. (Withdrawn)

34. (Amended) A laser irradiation target, comprising:

a three dimensional structure of carbon atoms having a plurality of 5-member carbon rings and a substantially hollow truncated-icosahedron geometric shape; and

a catalyst powder mixed with said three dimensional structure to form a solid unit
having the catalyst powder in a range of 4.5 at % to 5.5 at %.

35. (New) The laser irradiation target according to claim 13, wherein said catalyst powder comprises Ni and Co.

36. (New) The laser irradiation target according to claim 13, wherein said pellet comprises a diameter of about 1 cm. and a thickness of 5 mm.